Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, The people of the state of South Dakota have been fortunate to be the recipients of the endeavors of a special class of individuals devoted to making our state number one in the transportation field; and,

Whereas, Norman L. Konechne joined that elite group of employees as an Assistant Engineer in the Department of Highways in Mitchell, South Dakota, on April 4, 1965, and has since served the people of South Dakota in posts in Brookings and Pierre where, on May 21, 1983, he was appointed to the position of Pierre Area Engineer, a new position created when the South Dakota Department of Highways was reorganized and became the South Dakota Department of Transportation, and Norm is the last of the original Area Engineers appointed at that time, and has maintained his status as a Licensed Land Surveyor throughout his career; and,

Whereas, Norm has, in the course of his career, overseen the reconstruction of numerous major arterial routes in the Pierre Area including the realignment and reconstruction of Highway 14 from Pierre to Philip and the reconstruction of Highway 83 from Pierre to Highway 212, among others; and, due to the proximity of the Pierre Area Office to the central offices of the DOT, it has been Norm's responsibility to introduce numerous young engineers to the "real world" of construction engineering; and,

Whereas, Due to the uniqueness of being located in our capital city, Norm has been involved in many Capitol Complex improvements such as the beautification of Hilger's Gulch, the Capitol Creek project, and has been called upon for projects such as fencing the South Dakota Women's Prison, building beaches at Okobojo Creek, a fish impoundment area at Spring Creek, and boat ramps along the Missouri River, as well as numerous other special projects for the Governor's Office; and,

Whereas, Norm's position has brought many encounters with the traveling public including a memorable call from a recent former governor regarding a certain slope stake that had punctured the tire on said governor's Corvette; and,

Whereas, Norm has been a loving husband to Sandy and father to Nicole and Heather and has now expressed his desire to spend more time playing golf, hunting pheasants, and working with his roses; and,

Whereas, Norm has served the people of this great state for 38 years and 6 days, always exhibiting the qualities of professionalism, honor and integrity, and is choosing now to retire:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim Friday, April 11, 2003, as

NORMAN KONECHNE DAY

in South Dakota, and I join his co-workers, family, and friends in congratulating him on this well-earned retirement and wishing him a long, healthy, peaceful and enjoyable retirement.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighth Day of April in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Three.

M. Michael Rounds

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State